

September 5, 1985

TO: File

FROM: D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor/Reclamation *DWH*  
Hydrologist

RE: Interstate Brick Clay Operations, Five Mile Pass Mine,  
ACT/045/006 Tooele County, Utah

On August 29, 1985, Division representatives, D. Wayne Hedberg, Lynn Kunzler, Dave Wham, Jim Leatherwood and Dave Hooper met with Mr. Ron Bauldwin of Interstate Brick Company and George Campbell, Mary Beth Martin and Susan Skinner of the BLM (Salt Lake District Office) for the purpose of inspecting several of Interstate Brick's clay operations in Tooele and Utah counties. The first site visited was the Five Mile Pass clay pit properties.

The Five Mile area is a rather confusing area because there is so much historic disturbance in the area by a variety of different operators. Numerous roads, pads, spoil piles and pit excavations are scattered throughout the Five Mile Pass area. The age and ownership of many of these disturbances are questionable as well. Some have naturally revegetated to a fair extent. Others are quite barren and denuded of vegetation.

Interstate Brick is in the process of trying to formalize a new permit application (revised MR-1), which will have an explanation of the landownership and the responsibilities for which they should be held accountable. There is primarily one major pit which the company has been and will continue to be mining clay out of. It is a substantial pit covering approximately 20-25 acres in disturbance. This large pit is on patented claims. The clay body being mined from the Five Mile Pass clay pits is primarily of an illite type. Some of the surrounding vegetation included Pinion Juniper, Big sagebrush, Four-wing saltbush, Cheatgrass and Indian ricegrass. Mr. Baldwin stated that this clay pit has been worked for at least 15 or more years by Interstate Brick. Approximately five to seven pictures were taken in this immediate area.

The second area visited at the Five Mile area is located just to the north of the first pit described above and is on BLM land. A series of excavations and pits of varying size, totalled approximately 15-20 acres. Steep highwalls of the overburden material (which is a mixture of colluvium and alluvial gravels) overlies thick bedded limestone material. The clay bed is beneath these layers and appears to be dipping

Page 2  
Memorandum - File  
ACT/045/002  
September 5, 1985

approximately 15-20 degrees to the west. The clay layer itself is 25-30+ feet thick. Disturbance on these claims are pre-1981 and are situated on BLM ground. Consequently, the BLM has little jurisdiction or authority over requiring reclamation of the same unless the sites are redisturbed.

Mr. Baldwin's best estimate of when this area was last mined was in the 1960's. He said he could dig into the records to check to be certain. The contractor that the company <sup>Peck</sup> currently uses to mine and haul the clay is Tom Beck and Sons. There also are adjacent properties owned by Interpace Corp. which also has used the same contractor to handle some of their mining activities. Mr. Baldwin stated that he felt to his knowledge, Interpace had not performed any mining activities in several years in this area.

There is an ephemeral erosional channel leading to one end of this pit which has created a small pond on top of the clay layer in the bottom of the pit. The pond has a significant amount of persistent vegetation associated with it. It appears that this pond is probably intermittent to perennial in nature. When asked of the permanence of this pit, Mr. Baldwin said he could only speak for the last two-three years and that the pond has been fluctuating in size for that period of time. Currently, it is approximately 15-20 feet in diameter, maybe a foot or so deep. It is assumed that this is attributable primarily to surface drainage resulting from intermittent thunderstorms in the area. Approximately four pictures were taken in this area.

There are some older underground workings in the area as well. These workings are indicated by shaft locations that were visited while on site at the Five Mile area (none have been worked recently). Also observed were some trenching-dozzer excavations that had been regraded by Interstate Brick. Again, these activities were located on BLM grounds in the Five Mile Pass area.

dwh  
cc: George Campbell  
Lowell Braxton  
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